

# PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN

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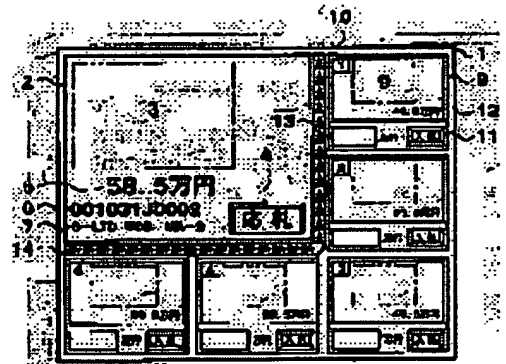
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## (54) SERIAL AUCTION SYSTEM

### (57)Abstract:

**PROBLEM TO BE SOLVED:** To provide a serial auction system capable of carrying out an auction speedily and efficiently.

**SOLUTION:** An auction screen for displaying the situation of the auction carried out presently and an at least one last bidding screen in the state of waiting for the auction are displayed on the terminal monitor screen of an auction participant. An auction article screen, a proposal button, a bidding price, an exhibition number, etc., are displayed in the auction screen, and a bidding starting price starts from the last bid price. The screen of a last bidding article, a bidding button, a bidding starting price, a last bidding price, etc., are displayed in the last bidding screen, and an auction waiting number is displayed when there are a plurality of the last bidding screens. A plurality of previous bidding pictures are displayed on the terminal monitor screen of the auction participant while an auction is not carried out. The screen of a previous bidding article, a previous bidding article number, a bidding button, a bidding starting price, a previous bidding price, etc., are displayed in the previous bidding screen. Furthermore, a specification display screen for displaying the specification of the screen of the previous bidding article can be displayed.



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**DETAILED DESCRIPTION**

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[Detailed Description of the Invention]

[0001]

[Field of the Invention] This invention relates to the serial auction system which can carry out an auction quickly and efficiently by performing just before and/or a prior bid to the auction housing sent by especially the auction about the auction system using communication networks, such as the Internet.

[0002]

[Description of the Prior Art] When an auction, for example, auctions, such as a used car, was performed conventionally, the used car was carried in to the auction hall, it sent out the whole set by conveyor etc., and the auction was carried out. In this method, while carrying in the used car to the auction hall, the participant also needed to go to the auction hall and there was a trouble that time amount and cost started too much.

[0003] Moreover, the tree-like auction system which connected two or more front computers to the host computer by the dedicated line, and connected two or more sets of dealer terminals to this front computer with the public line further in JP,62-190552,A, JP,8-161412,A, etc. that the above-mentioned trouble should be solved is proposed and carried out. In this system, used car information was acquired by acquiring from the laser disc (trademark) distributed to each dealer, or receiving used car information from the satellite communication means connected to the host computer. Moreover, in recent years, the used car auction site using this Internet is also beginning to appear with the remarkable spread of the Internet. And used car information is acquired by accessing this used car auction site. Moreover, operation of an auction is performed by operating an auction raising carbon button to the housing displayed on the terminal monitoring screen of terminal units, such as a personal computer.

[0004]

[Problem(s) to be Solved by the Invention] However, one auction is performed at a time in the above-mentioned auction system, when the auction raising signal from a participant's terminal unit is completed, batch processing of the successful bid is carried out, and it is determined. Drawing 3 is the auction operation conceptual diagram of the conventional auction system, and expresses the situation that one auction is performed at a time to a serial from A1 to An. In this system, in order to start one auction at a time from the time of a start, the call from many participants' P1-Pn terminal unit concentrated on A1 which is a current auction housing, and there was a trouble that the time amount concerning an auction will become long.

[0005] This invention is accomplished in order to solve the above troubles, and it aims at offering the serial auction system which can carry out an auction quickly and efficiently, without a tender concentrating further, without starting an auction from the time of a start by performing just before and/or a prior bid to the auction housing sent by the auction.

[0006]

[Means for Solving the Problem] In order to solve the above-mentioned technical problem, in the serial auction system of this invention, the auction screen for displaying the auction situation by which current operation is carried out on an auction participant's terminal monitoring screen, and a bid-just before

an auction waiting state of at least one or more screens screen are displayed. On this auction screen, an auction housing image, a tender carbon button, the amount of a tender, an exhibition number, etc. are displayed, and the amount of tender initiation is started from the amount of a just before bid. Moreover, on a bid-just before this screen, a just before bid housing image, a bid carbon button, the amount of bid initiation, the amount of a just before bid, etc. are displayed, and when there are two or more just before bid screens further, the waiting number for an auction is displayed. Moreover, when there are two or more bid-just before this screens, while the shift direction of the waiting for an auction is shown, the bar meter display for displaying the residual time of tender time amount is performed.

[0007] Moreover, when the auction is not carried out, two or more prior bid screens are displayed on an auction participant's terminal monitoring screen. A prior bid housing image, a prior bid housing number, a bid carbon button, the amount of bid initiation, the amount of a prior bid, etc. are displayed on this prior bid screen. Moreover, a display of the specification display screen for displaying the specification of this prior bid housing image is enabled.

[0008]

[Example] The example of this invention is explained using drawing. Drawing 1 is the one example Fig. of a terminal monitor's auction screen in the serial auction system of this invention, and a just before bid screen, and drawing 2 is the one example Fig. of a terminal monitor's prior bid screen in the serial auction system of this invention.

[0009] As shown in drawing 1 ; the auction screen 2 for displaying the auction situation carried out now on an auction participant's terminal monitoring screen 1 and the bid-just before auction waiting state of at least one or more screens screen 8 are displayed. In drawing 1 , the auction screen 2 has been arranged in the upper left section of the terminal monitoring screen 1, and five screens of just before bid screens 8 are arranged to inverted-L-shaped so that this auction screen 2 may be surrounded.

[0010] On the auction screen 2, the auction housing image 3, the tender carbon button 4, the amount 5 of a tender, and exhibition number 6 grade may be displayed, and other display items may be established according to the class of auction housing image 3. For example, it is suitable if a used car, then the type-of-a-car name 7 also display the auction housing image 3 of drawing 1 . Just before a bid is offered just before in the just before bid screen 8, the amount 13 of a bid is displayed, and the amount 5 of a tender at the time of auction initiation is started from the amount 13 of a bid just before this. A click of the tender carbon button 4 which is an auction raising carbon button once adds the auction raising frame, for example, 3000 yen, set up beforehand to the amount 5 of a tender. If a successful bid is determined by actuation of this tender carbon button 4, the message screen (not shown) of successful bid guidance will be displayed, then the just before bid screen 8 will shift to the auction screen 2, and the following auction will be started. When there are two or more bid-just before this screens 8, it shifts in order [ No. / of the waiting number 10 for an auction / 1 ].

[0011] On the just before bid screen 8, the just before bid housing image 9, the bid carbon button 11, the amount 12 of bid initiation, and amount of just before bid 13 grade are displayed, and when there are two or more just before bid screens 8 further, the waiting number 10 for an auction is displayed. The amount 21 of a prior bid sold by bid in advance in the prior bid screen 16 is displayed, and the amount 12 of bid initiation at the time of just before bid initiation is started from this amount 21 of a prior bid. If the bid carbon button 11 which is an auction raising carbon button is clicked once, the auction raising frame, for example, 3000 yen, set up beforehand will be added to the amount 12 of bid initiation, and they will be displayed as the amount 13 of a just before bid.

[0012] Moreover, when there are two or more bid screens 8 just before the above, the bar meter display 14 for displaying the shift direction of the waiting for an auction, and displaying the residual time of tender time amount is performed. In drawing 1 R> 1, in order that the shift direction of the waiting for an auction may consider as No. 1 from No. 5 of the waiting number 10 for an auction, the arrow head of the bar meter display 14 has also turned to No. 1 from No. 5 of the waiting number 10 for an auction. Furthermore, in order to display tender time amount, i.e., the residual time of an auction, it is suitable to carry out by the approach of carrying out the color substitute of the bar meter display 14, and shifting it with the approach of switching off with the passage of time and the passage of time.

[0013] Moreover, when the auction is not carried out, two or more prior bid screens 16 are displayed on an auction participant's terminal monitoring screen 15, and it enables it to perform a prior bid. In drawing 2, the prior bid screen 16 of nine screens of 3x3 is arranged on the terminal monitoring screen 15. The prior bid housing image 17, the prior bid housing number 18, the bid carbon button 19, the amount 20 of bid initiation, and amount of prior bid 21 grade are displayed on this prior bid screen 16. The amount 20 of bid initiation at the time of prior bid initiation is started from the amount 20 of bid initiation set up beforehand. If the bid carbon button 19 which is an auction raising carbon button is clicked once, the auction raising frame, for example, 3000 yen, set up beforehand will be added to the amount 20 of bid initiation, and they will be displayed as the amount 21 of a prior bid. Moreover, a display of the specification display screen 22 for displaying the specification 23 of the prior bid housing image 17 is enabled, and it can display at any time by the key stroke of a terminal unit (not shown), or actuation of the prior bid screen 16. In addition, although it is suitable for the terminal monitoring screen 15 to change and display the terminal monitoring screen 1, it may be made to indicate the monitor by another \*\*\*\*.

[0014] Moreover, if the function to give a color substitute indication of some of whole screens or screens according to the rate of possibility, or to generate a symbol table example or a voice-told message is added in order to judge whether it can be awarded in the auction of acting before the audience by the frame which offered a bid beforehand in the just before bid screen 8 or the prior bid screen 16, it becomes possible to narrow down a successful bid housing in advance, and the auction of acting before the audience can be attended with allowances. For example, when successful bid possibility is high, in the above-mentioned color substitute display, it indicates are "green", and "O" is displayed in a notation display, and it utters in a voice-told message, saying "The possibility of a successful bid is high." Moreover, when the possibility of a successful bid is low, "red" is displayed in the above-mentioned color substitute display, "x" is displayed in a notation display, and it utters in a voice-told message, saying "The possibility of a successful bid is low."

[0015] Although drawing 4 is the auction operation conceptual diagram of the auction system of this invention and one auction is performed at a time to a serial from A1 to An, when time amount or an auction while the auction of an auction housing without a successful bid schedule is performed performs a just before bid and a prior bid using the time amount which is not carried out at all, the situation which can participate in an auction with allowances is expressed. Moreover, without the call from many participants' P1-Pn terminal unit concentrating on A1 which is the present auction housing, since the amount 5 of a tender of an auction can be started from the amount 13 of a just before bid and it is not necessary to perform an auction to an auction housing with the still lower possibility of a successful bid, the time amount concerning an auction will also be short and can be managed with this system.

[0016]

[Effect of the Invention] The greatest effectiveness that an auction can be carried out quickly and efficiently can be done so, without a tender concentrating further, without starting an auction from the time of a start by performing just before and/or a prior bid to the auction housing sent by the auction, if the serial auction system of this invention is adopted as the auction system of many including a used car as stated above.

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**DESCRIPTION OF DRAWINGS**

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[Brief Description of the Drawings]

[Drawing 1] It is the one example Fig. of a terminal monitor's auction screen in the serial auction system of this invention, and a just before bid screen.

[Drawing 2] It is the one example Fig. of a terminal monitor's prior bid screen in the serial auction system of this invention.

[Drawing 3] It is the auction operation conceptual diagram of the conventional auction system.

[Drawing 4] It is the auction operation conceptual diagram of the auction system of this invention.

[Description of Notations]

- 1 Terminal Monitoring Screen
- 2 Auction Screen
- 3 Auction Housing Image
- 4 Tender Carbon Button
- 5 Amount of Tender
- 6 Exhibition Number
- 7 Type-of-a-Car Name
- 8 Just before Bid Screen
- 9 Just before Bid Housing Image
- 10 Waiting Number for Auction
- 11 Bid Carbon Button
- 12 Amount of Bid Initiation
- 13 Amount of just before Bid
- 14 Bar Meter Display
- 15 Terminal Monitoring Screen
- 16 Prior Bid Screen
- 17 Prior Bid Housing Image
- 18 Prior Bid Housing Number
- 19 Bid Carbon Button
- 20 Amount of Bid Initiation
- 21 Amount of Prior Bid
- 22 Specification Display Screen
- 23 Specification

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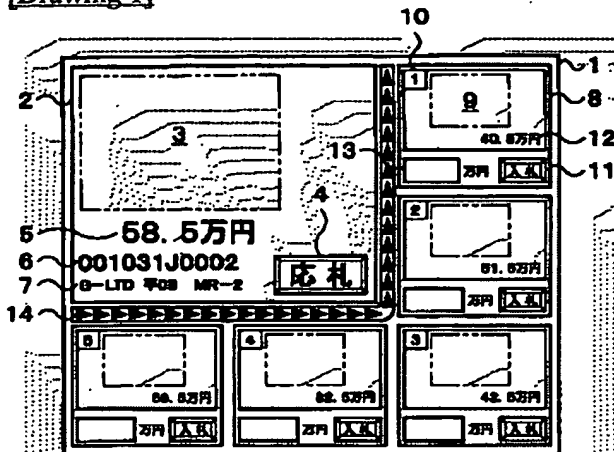
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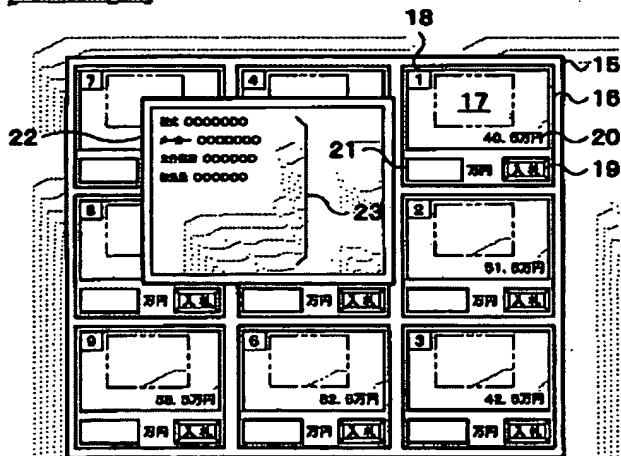
DRAWINGS

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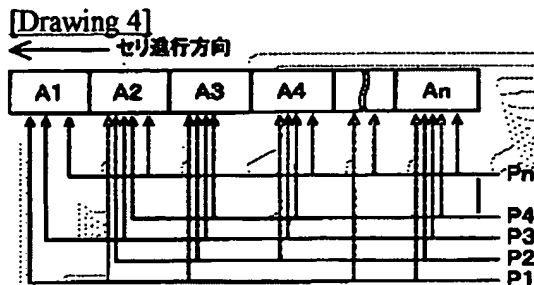
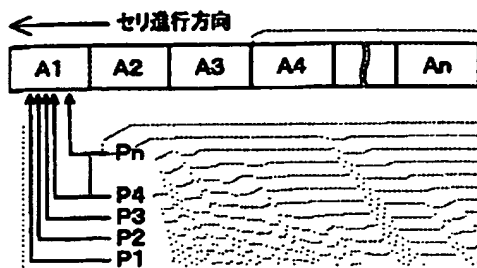
[Drawing 1]



[Drawing 2]



[Drawing 3]



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**CLAIMS**

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**[Claim(s)]**

**[Claim 1]** The auction screen for displaying the auction situation by which current operation is carried out on an auction participant's terminal monitoring screen (1) (2), A bid-just before auction waiting state of at least one or more screens screen (8) is displayed. A means to display an auction housing image (3), a tender carbon button (4), the amount of a tender (5), an exhibition number (6), etc. on this auction screen (2), and to start the amount of tender initiation from the amount of a just before bid (13), On a bid-just before this screen (8), a just before bid housing image (9), a bid carbon button (11), the amount of bid initiation (12), the amount of a just before bid (13), etc. are displayed. Furthermore, it is characterized by having a means to perform the bar meter display (14) for displaying the residual time of tender time amount while the shift direction of the waiting for an auction is shown, when there are two or more means to display the waiting number for an auction (10) when there are two or more just before bid screens (8), and bid-, just before this screens (8). Serial auction system.

**[Claim 2]** When the auction is not carried out, two or more prior bid screens (16) are displayed on an auction participant's terminal monitoring screen (15). A prior bid housing image (17), a prior bid housing number (18) and a bid carbon button (19), the amount of bid initiation (20), the amount of a prior bid (21), etc. are displayed on this prior bid screen (16). Moreover, the serial auction system according to claim 1 characterized by enabling a display of the specification display screen (22) for displaying the specification (23) of this prior bid housing image (17).

**[Claim 3]** The serial auction system according to claim 1 or 2 characterized by having the function to give a color substitute indication of some of whole screens or screens according to the rate of possibility, or to generate a symbol table example or a voice-told message in order to judge whether it can be awarded in the auction of acting before the audience by the frame which offered a bid beforehand in the just before bid screen (8) or the prior bid screen (16).

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**[Translation done.]**